

## **Virginia Eviction Reduction Pilot (VERP) Applicant FAQ**

- Is there a maximum amount of award per applicant?
  - There is not a maximum amount of award per applicant. However, DHCD will only be able to fund up to 7 grantees. The available funding across all grantees is \$3 million. DHCD reserves the right to adjust funding level and grant period based on availability of funds.
- Does the pilot include homeowners for mortgage assistance?
  - No, the pilot does not include homeowners. The pilot is focused on eviction prevention and thus will only serve renters.
- Does VERP have citizenship requirements for pilot participants?
  - No, VERP does not have any citizenship requirements. Individuals who are undocumented are eligible to receive VERP services.
- Can an organization service more than one locality in a region?
  - Yes, an organization can serve more than one locality. DHCD will only fund one grantee per locality.
- DHCD stated they will prioritize applicants providing services to those localities with the highest eviction rates. What period of time should applicants be looking at to determine those eviction rates?
  - DHCD is interested in the evictions rates pre-pandemic. If available, it is recommended to look at the eviction rates in 2019 for a locality.
- DHCD asked that applicants involve individuals with lived experience. How will you verify that the applicant involved individuals with lived experience?
  - DHCD asks that applicants include a brief narrative describing how they plan to select and include such an individual. DHCD will not verify the individual's background, but instead, will rely upon the applicant to conduct any verification necessary.
- Will you partially fund requests, meaning that an applicant applies for \$100,000 in funding, but you don't approve full request instead approved for less?
  - Yes, DHCD may choose to partially fund requests.
- Can emergency COVID-19 funding count towards the local match?
  - No, local COVID-19 emergency funding may not count towards a local match commitment. The pilot does not require a match; however, applicants that include a local match contributions will be given a scoring preference.

- Is there a limit on administrative spending in the budget?
  - Yes, the limit on administrative expenses is capped at 5%.
- Do co-applicants need to have MOUs in place when applying?
  - MOUs or a similar agreement (such as a Letter of Intent) are required when applying. Applicants should submit MOUs or agreements in the “attachment” section of the application. Applicants should clearly identify all intended partners in their application.
- The program runs from February 2021 through December 2021. Does all of the money need to be spent during that timeframe?
  - The initial VERP grant funds are available for use between February 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021. There is a potential renewal period to include a second year but that is tentative right now. DHCD reserves the right to adjust funding level and grant period based on availability of funds.